



DR. K.V. GURURAJA'S (KVG) AWESOME FROG TOY COLLECTIONS! CHECK THEM OUT, WHEN YOU MEET HIM!

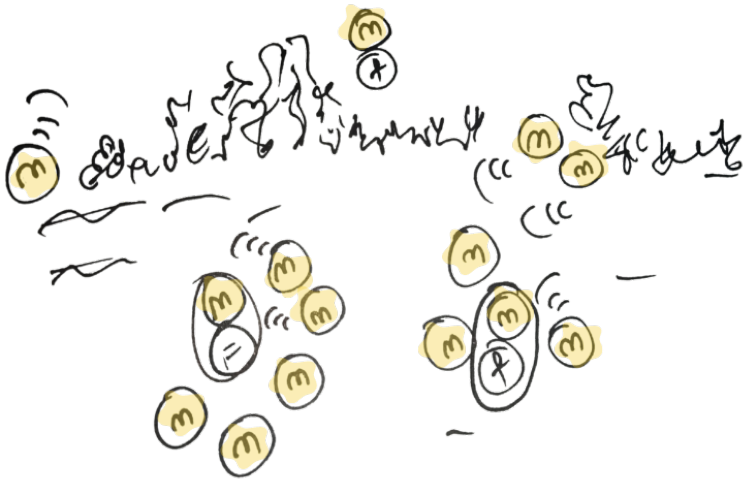


HEAVY RAINS, COLD AIR, DENSE PLANTS, CRAZY SOUNDS, ABSOLUTE DARKNESS. TO LOCATE A FROG IN THIS CHAOS WAS AN ABSOLUTE ADVENTURE!

DURING OUR WALKS, WE RECORDED PHYSICAL FEATURES OF THE FROGS, HABITAT IT WAS FOUND IN, CALL PATTERNS, INTERACTIONS WITH OTHER WILDLIFE AND SO ON. SESSION BY DR. VIDISHA KULKARNI ON HOW TO DOCUMENT OUR OBSERVATIONS THROUGH SKETCHES AND SOME KEY CHARACTERS NECESSARY TO IDENTIFY FROGS AT FAMILY LEVEL, HELPED US DIRECT OUR OBSERVATIONS BETTER.

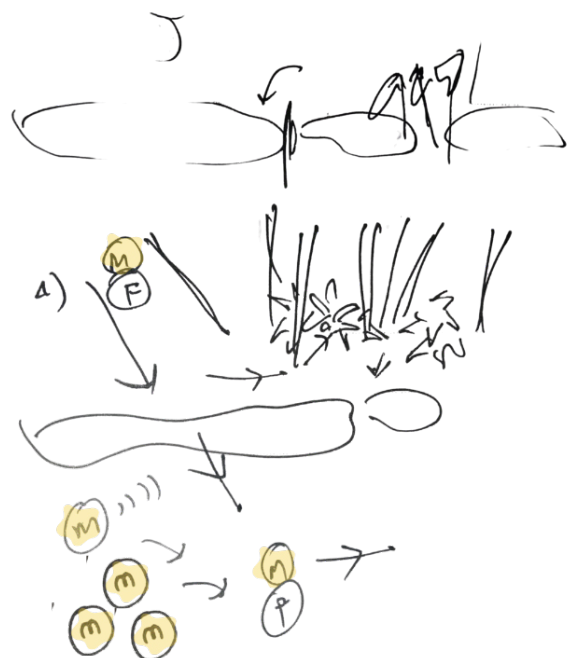
MATING MATTERS~

DURING OUR MORNING SURVEY, WE CAME ACROSS A SMALL PUDDLE AND THE SURROUNDING BUSH FULL OF YELLOW TURNED MALE TOADS. UPON CAREFUL LOOK, ONE COULD SEE A FEMALE UNDERNEATH, NON-YELLOW & BROWN IN COLOUR. THIS IS CALLED THE AMPLEXUS POSITION WHERE THE MALE HOLDS THE FEMALE FIRMLY FROM BEHIND, WHILE MATING. WE SPENT A GOOD 1-2 HOURS OBSERVING THESE GUYS AND THEIR ONGOING DYNAMICS. OH TOAD, THE STUFF WE OBSERVED! THESE GUYS CAN GYRATE ONE'S MIND!



THE MATING MALES IN THE PUDDLE HAD MORE COMPETITION IN THE PUDDLE THAN THE ONES IN THE BUSH DUE TO THE NUMBER OF MALES WAITING TO MOUNT THE FEMALE. SO, SOME WOULD MATE IN THE BUSHES TO AVOID THE HASSLE OF FIGHTING WITH A GANG OF MALES. BUT A FEMALE NEEDS WATER AT SOME POINT. SO, THEY WILL HAVE TO MAKE IT TO PUDDLE SOONER OR LATER. AND ONCE THEY DO, VOILA! THE BATTLE IS ON! THEY ARE SURROUNDED BY INDIVIDUAL MALES IN NO TIME!

THERE WERE MATING PAIRS INSIDE THE PUDDLE AND IN THE BUSHES. SOME INDIVIDUAL MALES WERE IN THE BUSHES, CONSTANTLY CALLING OUT & SOME WERE FLOCKING AROUND THE PAIRS, TRYING TO PUSH THE MATING MALES OFF THE FEMALE BY PHYSICAL PUSH WHILE ALSO CALLING.

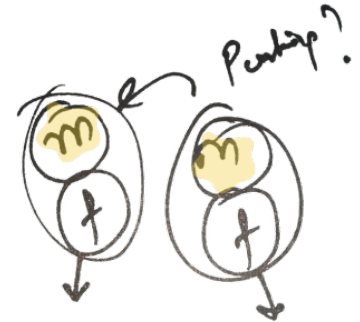




TICK TICK TIUUU

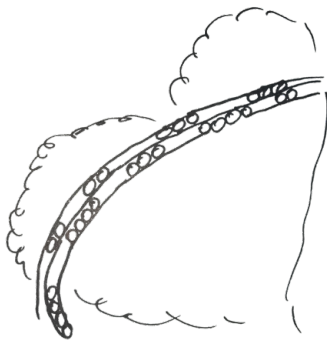
WHEN THE UNPAIRED MALES WERE STRESSING THE MATING MALES, THE MATING MALE WOULD MAKE A *TICK TICK TIUUU* SOUND SIGNALLING THEM TO NOT TO COME NEAR. KVG BROUGHT THIS OBSERVATION TO OUR NOTICE. APPARENTLY, FROGS DON'T JUST HAVE A MATING CALL, BUT ALSO ALARMING CALLS & OTHER CALL TYPES THAT WE KNOW NOTHING OF!

I SAW A MATING MALE PUSHING THE MATING MALE OF ANOTHER PAIR FROM ITS HIND LEGS. WHY WOULD IT DO THAT? IS IT TO ENSURE THAT THE OTHER NON-MATING MALES DON'T SURROUND THEM TOO? NOW I DON'T REMEMBER IF THEY WERE SURROUNDED BY ANY UNPAIRED MALES. SO, WHETHER IT DID IT ACTIVELY OR NOT, ONLY LONG CAREFUL OBSERVATIONS MIGHT ANSWER.



I SAW A MALE THAT HAD MOUNTED ON TOP OF THE MATING MALE THAT WAS NOT ONLY AGGRESSIVELY TRYING TO LIFT THE MATING MALE OFF THE FEMALE BUT WAS ALSO CONSTANTLY CALLING OUT.

AROUND THE END OF THE MATING, THE YELLOW COLOUR OF THE MALE TOAD WOULD EVENTUALLY FADE. NOW, WHY DO THEY TURN YELLOW BEFORE MATING?



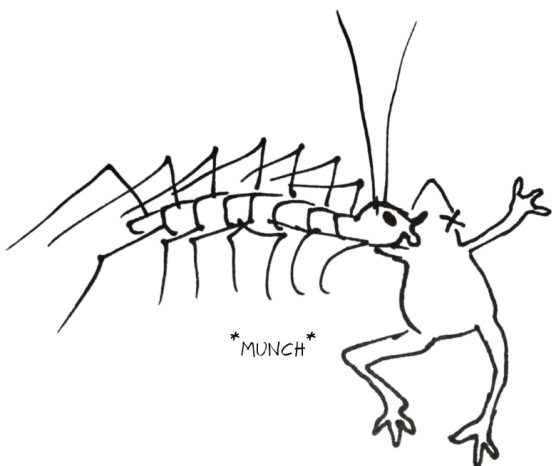
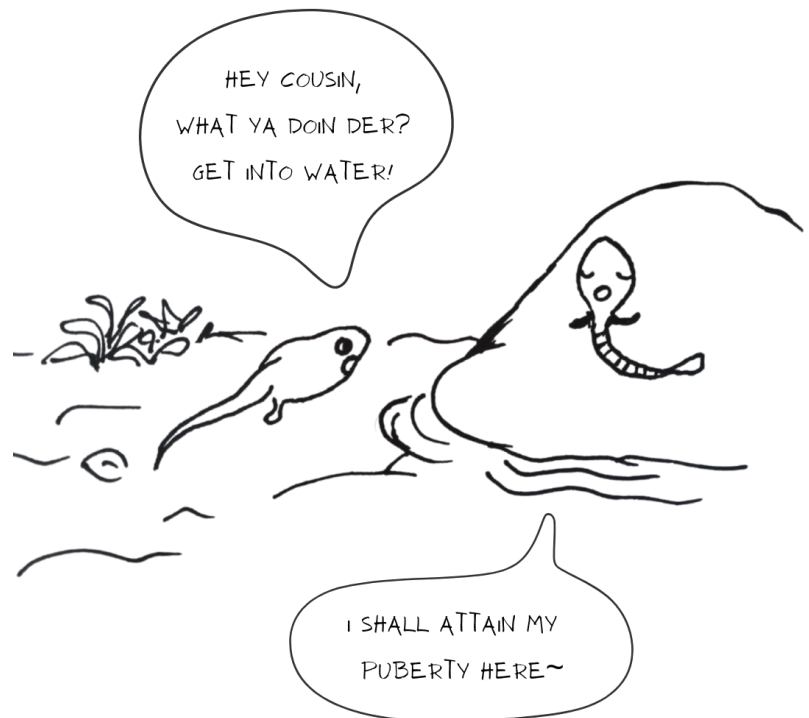
THE MOST BEAUTIFUL THING WE EVER SAW WAS THE STRINGS OF EGGS LAID BY THE FEMALE. THE EGGS OF FROGS, FISHES ARE ANAMNIOTES. MEANING, THEY HAVE NO SHELL AND THEY REQUIRE CONSTANT OXYGEN FROM SURROUNDINGS. HENCE THE EGGS ARE ALWAYS LAID INSIDE A WATER/MOISTY AREA. THIS ALSO EXPLAINS WHY FROGS ARE BIOINDICATORS. SMALL FLUCTUATIONS IN CHEMICAL COMPOSITION & TEMPERATURE OF THE WATER CAN HUGELY IMPACT THEIR SURVIVAL.

SOME COOL FROGGO FACTS/STORIES

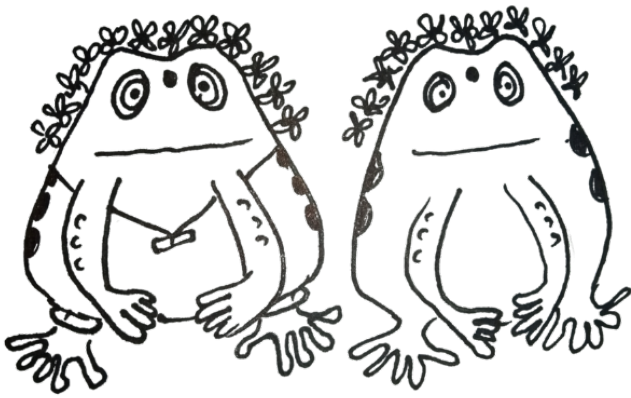


PURPLE FROG *NAKIBATRACHUS SAHYADRENSIS*, COMES OUT FOR 15 DAYS, ONLY DURING MONSOONS IN A YEAR. WHILE THEY ARE QUITE CHALLENGING TO SPOT, ONE CAN HEAR THEIR CALLS COMING FROM UNDERGROUND! THEY WERE FIRST RECORDED FROM KERALA AND ARE ENDEMIC TO WESTERN GHATS OF INDIA.

SOME TADPOLES ARE TERRESTRIAL! THEY LIVE ON ROCKS AND LEAVES TILL THEY BECOME ADULTS! LIKE SOUTHERN INDIAN FROG *INDIRANA SEMIPALMATA*!

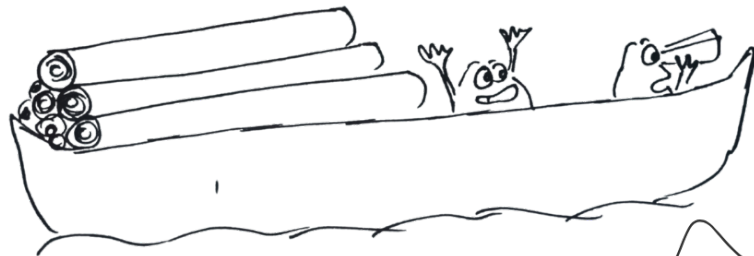


DURING THE PREVIOUS BISLE FROGWATCH, PEOPLE SAW HOUSE CENTIPEDE - *SCUTIGERA* SPP. FEEDING ON A FROGLET! WHETHER IT WAS SCAVENGING A DEAD ONE OR PREDATING A LIVE ONE, REMAINS A MYSTERY, UNTIL MORE SUCH OBSERVATIONS CAN BE MADE.



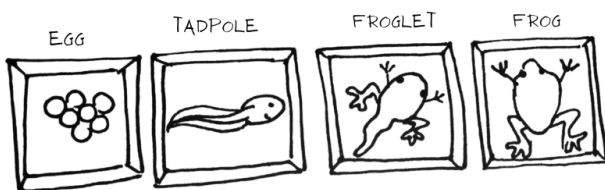
MANGALURU NARROW
MOUTHED FROG
MICROHYLA KODIAL
IS FOUND ONLY IN
MANGALORE, KARNATAKA,
TILL DATE. IT HAS NO
CLOSEST RELATIVES
IN INDIA. SO, IT IS
SPECULATED THAT
THESE FROGS CAME
HERE DURING TIMBER
SHIPMENTS TO INDIA FROM
SOUTHEASTERN ASIA.

KAPPE MADUVE (FROG'S MARRIAGE)!
AT UDUPI, KARNATAKA, PEOPLE GET
TWO FROGS MARRIED HOPING THAT
WOULD BRING RAINS. WHILE A FEW
CONSERVATIONISTS RECKON THAT THIS
CULTURAL BELIEF HAS PROTECTED
THE WETLAND OF THESE FROGS FOR
MANY YEARS, A FEW FEEL UPSET
WITH THE IRRATIONALITY AND IGNORED
ANIMAL WELFARE OF SUCH BELIEFS.

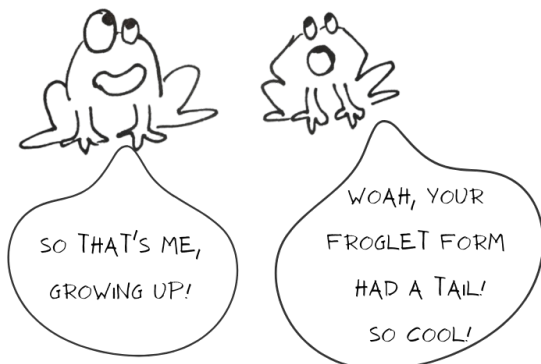


CROAKHOO!

I SEE A
LAND UP AHEAD,
BRUH!



THERE ARE A FEW FROG
SPECIES THAT HAVE NO
TADPOLE, FROGLET STAGES.
THE FROGS THAT HATCH OUT
OF THE EGGS ARE ALREADY
ADULTS. ALL THE GROWTH
HAPPENS INSIDE THE EGG.
FOR EXAMPLE, CHALAZODES
BUBBLE NEST FROG
RAORCHESTES CHALAZODES.



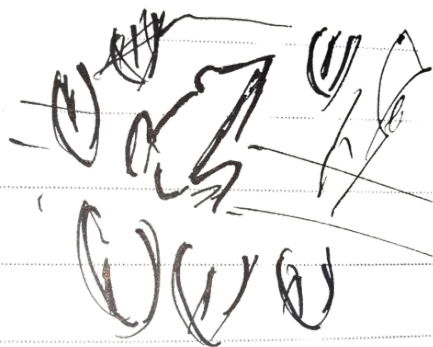
ASHOKAVANA



A WILDLIFE RESEARCHER'S HAVEN!

THIS PLACE ENCOURAGES ANY WILDLIFE ENTHUSIASTS TO STUDY THE LANDSCAPE, SPECIES, HABITAT OF BISLE BY GIVING THEM A PLACE TO STAY. THIS IS NOT A RECREATIONAL SPACE FOR PEOPLE TO BRING THEIR FAMILY/ FRIENDS TO HANG OUT, BUT A LEARNING SPACE TO EXPLORE BIODIVERSITY. IF INTERESTED IN DOING A STUDY, CONTACT THE BISLE FROGWATCH TEAM.

THE BISLE FROG WATCH TEAM HAS BEEN DOING THIS WORKSHOP FOR THE PAST 11 YEARS NOW. RESEARCH ON BIOACOUSTICS, BIOGEOGRAPHY, NATURAL HISTORY, TAXONOMY; EDUCATION & MANY MORE ASPECTS OF FROG CONSERVATION WORKS ARE BEING EXPLORED BY THE TEAM MEMBERS. THE WORKSHOP SET THE ZEAL TO WORK ON CONSERVING THE SPECIES MUCH STRONGER IN ALL OF US.



FROGGING IS NOTHING BUT TAKING A SNEAKY PEEK INTO FROG'S LIVES! :[]



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS: I THANK THE BISLE FROG WATCH TEAM FOR GIVING ME THE OPPORTUNITY TO LEARN FROM THEM; PAYAL MOLUR, FOR IMBIBING DOCUMENTATION SKILLS IN ME; DR. SANJAY MOLUR, FOR MOTIVATING ME TO WRITE ABOUT THIS EXPERIENCE.

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